

4. **Mellinus pygmæus** Handl.

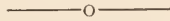
M. pygmæus Handlirsch, l. c. p. 289, pl. ii, fig. 1, ♀♂.

Mexico. Easily distinguished by the paucity of maculations.

5. **Mellinus alpestris** Cam.

M. alpestris Cam., Biol. Centr.-Am. Hym. ii, p. 85, pl. v, fig. 6, ♀.

Mexico. Not seen.



DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW COCCIDÆ.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL.

So far as the material permits, specimens of the species described under the above head will be sent to the U. S. National Museum and coll. American Entomological Society.

1. **Lecanium urichi** n. sp.—Red-brown, very shiny, nearly circular, moderately convex, the segments marked on upper surface by black or blackish transverse lines interrupted at regular intervals. Posterior incision nearly 1 mm. long, with contiguous sides. The two anal plates together forming a practically equilateral diamond-shaped quadrangle. Length $4\frac{2}{3}$ mm., breadth $4\frac{1}{4}$ mm., alt. nearly $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

I found no trace of legs or antennæ after boiling in soda, nor could I detect them by examining the underside of an untreated specimen with a lens. The mouth-parts were distinct, as usual. The lateral incisions are very deep and large, bulbous, with the margin of the bulb thickened and appearing dark brown. This appearance is very different from that in any other *Lecanium* I have seen. Margin with extremely small, but moderately stout spines, fairly numerous. Derm not tessellate, but crowded with very large gland pits, which by transmitted light appear dark brown on a light brown ground.

Hab.—Trinidad, West Indies, in a nest of the ant *Cremastogaster brevispinosa* Mayr. var. sent by Mr. Urich, September, 1893.

I was not able to study this species at the time it was received, and until I made a careful examination of it recently, I did not realize its interesting character. It is the first *Lecanium* known to live in ants' nests, and is, besides, a very peculiar form, perhaps subgenerically distinct from the rest of the genus. Its shape and appearance somewhat recalls *L. begoniæ* Douglas, but it is widely different from that in important characters. It is also apparently the first Coccid found in the nest of any *Cremastogaster*,

the species of that genus being, according to my experience, arboreal.

2. **Eriococcus coccineus** n. sp.—Female oval, shiny, plump, naked, dark crimson (occasionally dull yellow), with short white hairs round the margin. Forms an oval, rather closely-felted white sac, which covers it; in this, in March, the pale orange eggs are laid. Length of ♀, with sac, 3 mm.

Antennæ seven-jointed, 3 longest, then 4, then 2 and 1, then 5, 6, 7 subequal, but of these three, 7 somewhat longest. Formula 34 (12) 7 (56). A false joint slightly indicated in middle of third. Seventh blunt, rounded. Antennæ of nearly uniform width throughout, but slightly tapering distally. Legs well developed, pale brown. Trochanter with a hair; tarsus longer than tibia; sides of body with stout, blunt spines. Mentum apparently three- (certainly two-) jointed. Anal ring with six stout hairs, which extend beyond the tubercles. The other two, if present, are less developed; anal tubercles elongated and very distinct, each bearing a couple of short hairs at its end.

Hab.—Native country uncertain, found on a "Rat-tail Cactus" in a greenhouse at Lincoln, Neb. Sent by Prof. L. Bruner.

This is the first *Eriococcus* found on any of the Cactaceæ, and it will not be difficult to distinguish it from any of the described species. In its 7-jointed antennæ, and tibia shorter than tarsus, it resembles *E. raithbyi* Maskell, found in New Zealand on *Fagus*; but it differs from that insect, as might be expected, in a variety of ways.

The crimson form is typical; the dull yellow mutation may be termed *E. coccineus*, form *lutescens*. *E. raithbyi*, similarly, is sometimes yellow, sometimes red. In *Dactylopius*, some species are always yellowish, while allied but distinct species are always pink.